

Cruise supplies to BIOS

A general rule is that US chemical suppliers such as Sigma, VWR and Fisher Scientific will not ship to Bermuda when purchases are made on a domestic US Institutional account. They are also generally aware of freight forwarders and will not ship to them knowing the final destination of the product will be overseas.

There may be two options for you to purchase and ship chemicals and other supplies to BIOS.

Firstly, it may be possible and most efficient (time permitting) to use your USA domestic institutional account to order your required supplies from vendors of choice and ship to your institution in the most cost effective manner. This avoids considerable time and expense charged for your chemicals to be packed and documentation prepared for international export. The various supplies shipments can then be consolidated and safely packed at your institution and sent to our NJ forwarder for sea voyage or air freight to BIOS in Bermuda.

Secondly, if you contact us at BIOS well in advance with a list of your needed supplies, we are able to place orders on your behalf with any of the USA vendors on our international account. Orders are sent to the same freight forwarder in NJ to travel on to Bermuda by Air or Ocean Freight. We can clear the shipments through Bermuda Customs and have them collected or delivered to BIOS. The minimum pre-cruise time period to have us order on your behalf would likely be 6 weeks if the chemicals are available to ship from the vendor immediately. It would be strongly advised to place supplies requests 8 or more weeks in advance of need to allow for possible back-order situations. There is a BIOS Administration charge of 20% per shipment up to a maximum of \$250 as documented in our Fee Schedule. Payment can be made to BIOS by institutional Purchase Order or Credit Card with a 3% surcharge.

If you require any supply of a particular gas such as UHP Helium, UHP Nitrogen, Pure Air etc, these can be ordered on your behalf from our local supplier and a minimum 4 weeks lead time should be allowed to ship them from NJ by sea. If you require custom blended gases, the lead time should be longer and inquiries should be made to BIOS several months in advance in order to get the custom blend into the production queue in California.

Dry ice can be produced at BIOS on advance request of a week or more. The ice is produced from liquid CO₂ and produces approximately 16 circular pucks of ¾ lb apiece from a 50lb cylinder of CO₂. The cost to produce is the cost of the gas plus 20% Admin Fee plus ½ hr Lab Ops Tech Labor. The dry ice is only produced in full cylinder batches. Dry ice produced this way is not quite as dense as commercially produced dry ice from the USA and would be like comparing packed snow to ice cubes. It sublimates a little quicker, but can still be effective in shorter duration shipments.

Shipments made to BIOS via Fedex, DHL, UPS etc will require invoices to be uploaded to the courier website in advance of Customs clearance in addition to BIOS Customs Identification number of **CAPS ID 100166**.

If shipping Fedex, you should upload an invoice on official header or logo'd paper from the particular institution or vendor as soon as possible. This should include only the AWB Tracking Number in the subject line and also the **BIOS CAPS ID # 100166** within the email body. This email with invoice pdf attachment should be submitted to **bdaimport@fedex.com**.